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'We Didn't Know Size of CIA's NSA Subsidy'

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By JOHN PATRICK HUNTER

(Of The Capital Times Staff)

Two University of Wisconsin Law School students, both former presidents of the embattled National Student Association, admit that they were informed the Central Intelligence Agency was pumping money into their organization shortly after taking over the NSA reins, but both said they never knew how much.

Donald A. Hoffman, 30, of 2461 Fontaine Circle, a sophomore law student from Elm Grove, and Edward R. Garvey, 26, of 816B Eagle Heights, a law freshman from Burlington, said they were briefed about CIA's involvement when they were elected to top posts in the nationwide student organization.

Both hold bachelor degrees from the U.W.

"For God's sake, I didn't know they were pumping \$200,000 into NSA," Garvey told The Capital Times.

Hoffman and Garvey said they were not on the CIA payroll.

"Our salaries came from the dues paid to NSA by member schools," said Hoffman.

"Nobody I knew was getting any money," Garvey said.

Both men said they were taken a back when they learned the espionage agency funds were being funneled to NSA through private foundations, but did not protest the subsidies or take steps to cut off the money.

"You must remember this was long before the CIA was suspect, before the Bay of Pigs and all the rest," said Hoffman who served as NSA president in 1959-60.

Both Hoffman and Garvey received overseas assign-



Hoffman

Garvey

ments after they stepped down as NSA presidents. Garvey served as administrative secretary of the National Student Union, with headquarters in Leiden, Holland.

Hoffman reported that he had joined the State Department's Foreign Service and had been assigned to the Paris embassy at a "flunk-y's salary" of \$8,500 a year.

Both men professed aston-

ishment at reports CIA had slipped as much as \$200,000 a year into NSA.

"That's the thing that bothers me," Hoffman said, "that \$200,000 figure. I was told there was going to be support, but I was not told where or how much."

Hoffman and Garvey both reiterated their belief that CIA did not have any control over NSA policy decisions.

"I know of no time when we were controlled by the U.S. government or the CIA," Hoffman asserted.

Hoffman said he was "filled in" about the CIA.

"All of a sudden, here's this revelation; here's this State Department interest and the CIA," Hoffman said.

"It really disturbed me," he continued.

Both men said they were more interested in domestic issues than in international affairs during their terms of office.

Hoffman said he had involved NSA in Deep South sit-ins and Garvey later continued the student group's efforts in the civil rights field.

Garvey recalled that after he was elected NSA president at the group's national convention here he went to Philadelphia to assume his post. Garvey added:

"You're elected president. You go to Philadelphia. Here's this big office and suddenly you find out that some of the money is coming from the government."

"My involvement then with international affiliation was practically nil. I spent most of my time with civil rights and fighting the Right Wing."

Garvey said he ended his administration with "a \$10,000 deficit."

He said his presidential salary was \$3,000 a year.

"My wife, Betty worked as a secretary and earned more than I did," he said.

Garvey protested that NSA is being made a "sacrificial lamb" by persons who want to strike out at the CIA.

"I feel terrible about the whole thing. This is really a tragic situation. This sounds much more sinister than it is," he added.

Garvey said NSA's participation in the civil rights battles in 1961-62 were the most exciting time of my life."

"My memories of NSA are Jackson, Miss. — not the CIA," he said.

Hoffman and Garvey said a group of former NSA presidents are drafting a letter which will bear more than a dozen signatures defending NSA.